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Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities
Second session
New York, 16-27 June 2003

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden: draft resolution

The Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 56/168 of 19 December 2001 and 57/229 of 18 December 2002,

"*Noting with interest* Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/49[1] and draft resolution II recommended by the Commission for Social Development at its forty-first session for adoption by the Economic and Social Council,[2]

"*Reaffirming* the universality of all human rights and the need for persons with disabilities to be guaranteed the full enjoyment of those rights without discrimination,

"*Convinced* therefore that it is desirable to adopt an international convention to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities,

"1. *Decides* that an international convention on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities should be elaborated;

[1] See E/2003/23 (Part I), chap. II, sect. A.
[2] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 6* (E/2003/46), chap. I, sect. B.

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"2. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee, established in its resolution 56/168, shall be responsible for the elaboration of a draft international convention;

"3. *Further decides* to establish a group of fifteen experts competent in the field of human rights and/or disabilities, serving in their personal capacity, with the aim of presenting a proposal for a convention to the Ad Hoc Committee at its third session;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to appoint the experts, in close consultation with the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee, no later than one month after the adoption of the present resolution, with due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, and to draw the experts from among governmental and other experts;

"5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report drawing on the second session of the Ad Hoc Committee to the group of experts, reflecting views on proposals for a convention submitted to the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 57/229 by Governments, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies and other stakeholders, as well as a summary of the discussions held during the second session of the Ad Hoc Committee;

"6. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies and other stakeholders to submit to the expert group, through the Secretary-General, any further information or contribution that could assist the group in its work;

"7. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall convene its third session during 2004 for ten working days before the end of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

"8. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to begin consideration at its third session of the draft convention drawn up by the expert group."